

*in folders 9/25/11*

**Leta Howard**

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**From:** Diane Karabetsos <djkarabetsos@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 22, 2011 2:13 PM  
**To:** Leta Howard  
**Subject:** testimony

Thank you for including in today's testimony the following speech that I signed up to present:

I am a senior Grosse Pointe resident with no children in school. My five sons have long since graduated from the Grosse Pointe schools, but I choose to pay high taxes and support the schools because I understand the value of a great education. As a realtor and former teacher I know the community is intricately tied to the local school. Our property values have always reflected this. Our community has been willing to pay for bond issues and sinking fund millage. However districts that are forced to have open enrollment will find it difficult to pass future bond issues that do not benefit their own residents,

The majority of districts in Michigan already have chosen open enrollment or schools of choice. Why is there a need to take away local decision making from the remaining districts who do not want schools of choice? The state already dictates the curriculum and finances. Please let us decide who will attend our schools!